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NO. 9857 P. 6

JAN 16 2007

U.S. Application No: 10/698,010
Attorney Docket No.: 5259-10700US02
Amendment and Response dated January 15, 2007
Page 5

REMARKS

Claims 21-26, 28, 30-31, and 34-38 are pending in the application. The Office Action stated that claim 39 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants amend claim 35 to include the limitations previously recited in claim 39. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 35-37 should be allowed.

Applicants amend claim 21 to include the limitations previously recited in claim 29. Amended claim 21 recites an indentation that allows a channel in the detachable member to be aligned with the slot in the collar. Applicants respectfully submit that the limitations of claim 21 are not disclosed or suggested by the prior art. Therefore, claims 21-26, 28, 30-31, and 34 should be allowed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional Filing Fees required under 37 CFR §1.16, as well as any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 associated with this communication for which full payment had not been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the above, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Landry, et al.

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REMARKS

Claims 21-26, 28, 30-31, and 34-38 are pending in the application. The Office Action stated that claim 39 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants amend claim 35 to include the limitations previously recited in claim 39. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 35-37 should be allowed.

Applicants amend claim 21 to include the limitations previously recited in claim 29. Amended claim 21 recites an indentation that allows a channel in the detachable member to be aligned with the slot in the collar. Applicants respectfully submit that the limitations of claim 21 are not disclosed or suggested by the prior art. Therefore, claims 21-26, 28, 30-31, and 34 should be allowed.

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